

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A copolymer ~~of~~ comprising

(A1) 70 to 100 mol% of at least two different monoethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid monomers and

(A2) 0 to 30 mol% of one or more nonionic monomers,

which have been reacted with

(B) 5 to 30 mol%, based on the amidatable functional groups present in the copolymer of the monomers (A1) and ~~if desired~~ optionally (A2), of an amino-C₁-C₂-alkanesulfonic acid, ~~and/or~~ a salt of an amino-C₁-C₂-alkanesulfonic acid, or a combination thereof.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The copolymer according to claim 1, which comprises, in copolymerized form, as component (A1), at least two monomers selected from the group consisting of monoethylenically unsaturated C₃-C₆-monocarboxylic acids, ~~of~~ monoethylenically unsaturated C₄-C₈-dicarboxylic acids, anhydrides of monoethylenically unsaturated C₃-C₆-monocarboxylic acids, anhydrides of monoethylenically unsaturated C₄-C₈-dicarboxylic acids, salts of monoethylenically unsaturated C₃-C₆-monocarboxylic acids, salts of monoethylenically unsaturated C₄-C₈-dicarboxylic acids, and combinations thereof and their anhydrides and the salts of these acids.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The copolymer ~~according to claim 1 or 2~~ of claim 1, which is made up only of the monomers (A1).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The copolymer of claim 1 ~~according to claims 1 to 3~~, which comprises, in copolymerized form, as ~~monomer~~ the monomers (A1), methacrylic acid, acrylic acid, ~~and/or maleic acid, or combinations thereof~~.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The copolymer of claim 1 ~~according to claims 1 to 4~~, which comprises, in copolymerized form, as ~~monomer~~ as the monomers (A1), methacrylic acid and acrylic acid in the molar ratio 9:1 to 1:2.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The copolymer of claim 1 ~~according to claims 1 to 5~~, ~~in which~~ wherein the component (B) comprises 2-aminoethanesulfonic acid, a salt of 2-aminoethanesulfonic acid, or a combination thereof and/or a salt of this acid has been used as component (B).

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A process for ~~the preparation of copolymers~~ according to claims 1 to 6, which comprises preparing the copolymer of claim 1, comprising

a) copolymerizing at least two of the monomers (A1) and, optionally if desired, one or more of the nonionic monomers (A2) free-radically with one another to obtain a precursor copolymer and

b) reacting the precursor copolymer obtained in ~~step~~ a) with an amino-C₁-C₂-alkane-sulfonic acid, a salt of an amino-C₁-C₂-alkanesulfonic acid, or a combination thereof, to form the copolymer and/or a salt of this acid.

Claim 8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A method of making a detergent, comprising, forming the detergent with the copolymer of claim 1 ~~The use of copolymers according to claims 1 to 6 as film-inhibiting additive for detergents and rinse aids for dishwashers.~~

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): ~~A detergent, cleaner or rinse aid which comprises A~~ composition comprising the copolymer of claim 1 and at least one additive selected from the group consisting of a gelatin, a polyvinyl alcohol, a polyvinylpyrrolidone, a polyethylene oxide, cellulose, starch, sodium tripolyphosphate, sodium carbonate, sodium disilicate, sodium percarbonate, tetraacetylenediamine, a low-foam nonionic surfactant, sodium chloride, sodium sulfate, a polyacrylic acid sodium salt, and combinations thereof ~~copolymers according to claims 1 to 6 as additive.~~

Claim 11 (New): A method of cleaning dishware comprising, cleaning the dishware with the composition of claim 10.

Claim 12 (New): The composition of claim 10, wherein the at least one additive comprises a low-foam nonionic surfactant.

Claim 13 (New): The copolymer of claim 2, which comprises, in copolymerized form, as the monomers (A1), methacrylic acid, acrylic acid, maleic acid, or combinations thereof.

Claim 14 (New): The copolymer of claim 3, which comprises, in copolymerized form, as the monomers (A1), methacrylic acid, acrylic acid, maleic acid, or combinations thereof.

Claim 15 (New): The copolymer of claim 2, which comprises, in copolymerized form, as as the monomers (A1), methacrylic acid and acrylic acid in the molar ratio 9:1 to 1:2.

Claim 16 (New): The copolymer of claim 3, which comprises, in copolymerized form, as as the monomers (A1), methacrylic acid and acrylic acid in the molar ratio 9:1 to 1:2.

Claim 17 (New): The copolymer of claim 3, which comprises, in copolymerized form, as as the monomers (A1), methacrylic acid and acrylic acid in the molar ratio 9:1 to 1:2.

Claim 18 (New): A method of making a detergent, comprising, forming the detergent with the copolymer of claim 2.

Claim 19 (New): A method of making a detergent, comprising, forming the detergent with the copolymer of claim 4.

Claim 20 (New): A method of making a detergent, comprising, forming the detergent with the copolymer of claim 5.

Claim 21 (New): A method of making a detergent, comprising, forming the detergent with the copolymer of claim 6.